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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants : Rao, et al.  
Serial No. : 10/052,316  
Filed : January 18, 2002  
Title : STABILIZATION OF RETINOID COMPOUNDS  
  
Art Unit : 1614  
Examiner : Vickie Y. Kim

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April 10, 2003

(Date of Deposit)

William E. McGowan

(Name of applicant, assignee, or Registered Representative)

(Signature)

April 10, 2003

(Date of Signature)

Honorable Commissioner of Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

**RESPONSE TO RESRICTION**

Dear Sir:

In response to the Office Action of April 25, 2003 requesting restriction between Group I (claims 1-10) and Group II (claims 11-20), Applicants hereby provisionally elect Group I with traverse. M.P.E.P. § 803 states that the two criteria for a proper requirement for restriction between patentably distinct inventions are 1) the inventions must be independent or distinct as claimed, and (2) there must be a serious burden on the Examiner if restriction is not required. Here, the Examiner has not shown that there would be a serious burden if restriction were not required. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request the restriction requirement be withdrawn, and all pending claims be examined. Applicants await an action on the merits.



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